

RESOLUTIONS

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF ILLINOIS,

IN FAVOR

*Of the sale of the residue of the lands in the Saline reservation in that State.*

DECEMBER 29, 1847.

Referred to the Committee on Public Lands, and ordered to be printed.

*Memorial of the Legislature of Illinois to the Congress of the United States:*

Whereas, by the act of Congress entitled "An act to enable the people of Illinois Territory to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, passed on the eighteenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, it was, among other things, offered for the free acceptance or rejection of the convention to be assembled to form such constitution, that all salt springs within said State, and the lands reserved for the use of the same, shall be granted by said State for the use of said State, and the same to be used under such terms and conditions and regulations as the legislature of said State shall direct," with a *proviso*, however, "*That the legislature shall never sell or lease the same for a longer period than ten years at any one time:*"

*And whereas* the Congress of the United States did, by an act to authorize the legislature of the State of Illinois to sell and convey a part of the land reserved and granted to said State for the use of the Ohio saline, approved May twenty-fourth, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight, give its consent to the sale of thirty thousand acres, which was sold accordingly, and by an act to authorize the State of Illinois to sell twenty thousand acres of the saline lands in said State, approved January nineteenth, one thousand eight hundred and thirty, did give its consent for the sale of twenty thousand acres more of said reservation, which was accordingly sold under the authority of this State:

*And whereas* the residue of said reservation, amounting to thirty or forty thousand acres more, has been offered for sale, and mostly sold under the authority of former legislatures of this State, without obtaining the consent of Congress thereto, which lands have been paid for, and, in most instances, settled and improved by honest and industrious citizens of this State, in good faith, and without a knowledge of this defect in their titles:

*And whereas*, with a view to settle and quiet such defective titles, and to enable this State to sell and dispose of advantageously what remains

unsold of said residue of the original reservation for the use of the Ohio saline in Gallatin county, (the said lands being no longer useful for salt making,) the consent of Congress is desirable for the purposes aforesaid, though, perhaps, not necessary under the opinion of the Hon. William Wirt, formerly Attorney General of the United States, dated December twenty-eighth, one thousand eight hundred and twenty: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Congress of the United States be respectfully memorialized to pass an act giving its consent to the sale of all the residue of the lands originally reserved for the use of said Ohio saline in Gallatin county, for which the consent of Congress has not heretofore been given, and confirming the titles heretofore granted by this State, without such consent.

*Resolved*, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives in Congress requested, to use their best exertions to carry into effect the object of the foregoing memorial or joint resolution of the two branches of this general assembly.

*Resolved, further*, That it shall be the duty of the governor of this State to communicate to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress a copy of this memorial and resolutions.

NEWTON CLOUD,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JOSEPH B. WELLS,

*Speaker of the Senate.*

Originated in the House of Representatives.

JOHN McDONALD,

*Clerk House of Representatives.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, ILLINOIS.

I, Horace S. Cooley, Secretary of State, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the original preamble and resolutions on file in my office.

Witness my hand at Springfield, this 27th day of February, A. D. 1847.

H. S. COOLEY,

*Secretary of State.*